

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claim in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus for supporting a review of a document, comprising:

a storage which stores position-attribute management information defining items of position information to be acquired from a document to be reviewed, said position-attribute management information being stored independently from said document to be reviewed;

an input unit which receives, from a user, an input including a designation of a position in said document to be reviewed at which a comment is to be added to comments currently associated with said document to be reviewed, and said comment;

an acquiring unit, responsive to said input from said input unit, which acquires said position information from a position designated by said user in accordance with said position-attribute management information in said storage and stores, as an entry to comment-solution management information defining a comment and a solution to the comment, said position information and said comment to be added in said storage such that said position information and said comment information of said comment to be added are correlated to each other;

a search unit, coupled with said input unit and said acquiring unit, which searches, from the position-attribute management information and the comment-solution management information stored in said storage, said

position information and said comments currently comment-associated with
said document to be reviewed; and

a display unit, coupled with the search unit, which collectively displays
at least position information, said comment to be added and comments
currently a comment-associated with said document so as to correlate, on a
display screen at positions indicated by said at least position information, said
comments to be added and said comments currently associated with said
document and the comment to each other.

2. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus
according to claim 1, wherein said position-attribute management information
defines classification of an application used during preparation of through
which said document to be reviewed is prepared, classification of an object
prepared by said application, and acquisition items of the position information
in said document to be reviewed.

3. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus
according to claim 1, further comprising:

a reflecting unit for preparing minutes which correlate said comment to
be added, said comments currently in said document to be reviewed and
position information with said document to be reviewed and storing said
minutes in said storage.

4. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus for
supporting a review of a document, comprising:

a storage which stores position-attribute management information defining items of position information to be acquired from a document to be reviewed, said position-attribute management information being stored independently from said document to be reviewed;

an input unit which receives, from a user, an input including a designation of a position in said document to be reviewed at which a comment is to be added, and said comment;

an acquiring unit, responsive to said input from said input unit, which acquires said position information from a position designated by said user in accordance with said position-attribute management information in said storage and stores, as an entry to comment-solution management information defining a comment and a solution to the comment, said position information and said comment in said storage such that said position information and said comment information are correlated to each other;

a search unit, coupled with said input unit and said acquiring unit, which searches, from the position-attribute management information and the comment-solution management information stored in said storage, said position information and comment associated with said document to be reviewed;

a display unit, coupled with the search unit, which collectively displays at least position information and a comment associated with said document so as to correlate said at least position information and the comment to each other;

a reflecting unit for preparing minutes which correlate said comment and position information with said document to be reviewed and storing said minutes in said storage according to claim 3, further comprising: and
an instructing unit which, when a comment in said minutes is designated by said user, searches a comment coincident with said comment designated by said user from said storage, searches position information correlating to said retrieved comment and instructs an editor for editing of said document to be reviewed to highlight a position corresponding to said position information in said document to be reviewed.

5. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus for supporting a review of a document, comprising:
a storage which stores position-attribute management information defining items of position information to be acquired from a document to be reviewed, said position-attribute management information being stored independently from said document to be reviewed;
an input unit which receives, from a user, an input including a designation of a position in said document to be reviewed at which a comment is to be added, and said comment;
an acquiring unit, responsive to said input from said input unit, which acquires said position information from a position designated by said user in accordance with said position-attribute management information in said storage and stores, as an entry to comment-solution management information defining a comment and a solution to the comment, said position information

and said comment in said storage such that said position information and said comment information are correlated to each other;

a search unit, coupled with said input unit and said acquiring unit, which searches, from the position-attribute management information and the comment-solution management information stored in said storage, said position information and comment associated with said document to be reviewed;

a display unit, coupled with the search unit, which collectively displays at least position information and a comment associated with said document so as to correlate said at least position information and the comment to each other;

a reflecting unit for preparing minutes which correlate said comment and position information with said document to be reviewed and storing said minutes in said storage according to claim 3, further comprising: and

an editor which, when a comment in said document to be reviewed is designated by said user, searches a comment coincident with said comment designated by said user and highlights a portion in said minutes corresponding to said searched comment.

6. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

an editor which, in response to input of when a solution comment corresponding to against a comment in said minutes is input from said user, searches a comment coincident with said comment corresponding to said

solution comment and stores said solution comment in said storage by correlating it to said searched comment.

7. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus for supporting a review of a document, comprising:

 a storage which stores position-attribute management information defining items of position information to be acquired from a document to be reviewed, said position-attribute management information being stored independently from said document to be reviewed;

 an input unit which receives, from a user, an input including a designation of a position in said document to be reviewed at which a comment is to be added, and said comment;

 an acquiring unit, responsive to said input from said input unit, which acquires said position information from a position designated by said user in accordance with said position-attribute management information in said storage and stores, as an entry to comment-solution management information defining a comment and a solution to the comment, said position information and said comment in said storage such that said position information and said comment information are correlated to each other;

 a search unit, coupled with said input unit and said acquiring unit, which searches, from the position-attribute management information and the comment-solution management information stored in said storage, said position information and comment associated with said document to be reviewed;

a display unit, coupled with the search unit, which collectively displays at least position information and a comment associated with said document so as to correlate said at least position information and the comment to each other; and

a reflecting unit for preparing minutes which correlate said comment and position information with said document to be reviewed and storing said minutes in said storage according to claim 3,

wherein when receiving an input of said comment, said input unit acquires identification information of said user and said reflecting unit inserts the identification information of said user to said minutes in correspondence to said comment.

8. (previously presented) A document review support apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:

an editor for searching all comments and solution comments in said minutes from a specified range in a single document to be reviewed, correlating corresponding comment and solution comment to said single document to be reviewed and displaying said correlated comment and solution comment.

9. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus for supporting a review of a document, comprising:

a storage which stores position-attribute management information defining items of position information to be acquired from a document to be

reviewed, said position-attribute management information being stored independently from said document to be reviewed;
an input unit which receives, from a user, an input including a designation of a position in said document to be reviewed at which a comment is to be added, and said comment;
an acquiring unit, responsive to said input from said input unit, which acquires said position information from a position designated by said user in accordance with said position-attribute management information in said storage and stores, as an entry to comment-solution management information defining a comment and a solution to the comment, said position information and said comment in said storage such that said position information and said comment information are correlated to each other;
a search unit, coupled with said input unit and said acquiring unit, which searches, from the position-attribute management information and the comment-solution management information stored in said storage, said position information and comment associated with said document to be reviewed;
a display unit, coupled with the search unit, which collectively displays at least position information and a comment associated with said document so as to correlate said at least position information and the comment to each other;
a reflecting unit for preparing minutes which correlate said comment and position information with said document to be reviewed and storing said minutes in said storage according to claim 3, further comprising: and

an editor for receiving a priority order of the comment described in said minutes from said user and assigning giving said priority order to said minutes by correlating it to said comment.

10. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said editor sorts comments in said minutes minute-based on said position information and said priority order.

11. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus for supporting a review of a document, comprising:

a storage which stores position-attribute management information defining items of position information to be acquired from a document to be reviewed, said position-attribute management information being stored independently from said document to be reviewed;

an input unit which receives, from a user, an input including a designation of a position in said document to be reviewed at which a comment is to be added, and said comment;

an acquiring unit, responsive to said input from said input unit, which acquires said position information from a position designated by said user in accordance with said position-attribute management information in said storage and stores, as an entry to comment-solution management information defining a comment and a solution to the comment, said position information and said comment in said storage such that said position information and said comment information are correlated to each other;

a search unit, coupled with said input unit and said acquiring unit, which searches, from the position-attribute management information and the comment-solution management information stored in said storage, said position information and comment associated with said document to be reviewed;

a display unit, coupled with the search unit, which collectively displays at least position information and a comment associated with said document so as to correlate said at least position information and the comment to each other;

a reflecting unit for preparing minutes which correlate said comment and position information with said document to be reviewed and storing said minutes in said storage according to claim 3, further comprising:

an editor which, in response to input of when-solution comments corresponding to against comments in said minutes are input from said user, assigns gives said solution comments to said minutes by correlating them to said comments; and

a management unit for searching, in said minutes, comments not correlated to said solution comments in said minutes, preparing a pending issue list which lists adapted to put together comments to which said solution comments are not correlated and storing said pending issue list in said storage.

12. (previously presented) A document review support apparatus according to claim 11, wherein when a comment in said minutes is designated by said user, said management unit searches, from said storage, a comment

in said pending issue list which is coincident with said comment designated by said user and highlights a portion in said pending issue list which corresponds to said searched comment.

13. (previously presented) A document review support apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said management unit searches from said storage a comment corresponding to a solution comment in said pending issue list, searches from said storage a comment in said document to be reviewed which is coincident with said searched comment, and correlates the comment in said document to be reviewed to said comment in said pending issue list.

14. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said management unit, in response to when a comment or a solution comment in said pending issue list being designated by said user, said management unit searches from said storage a comment or a solution comment in said document to be reviewed which is coincident with said comment or said solution comment in said pending issue list, searches, from said storage, position information corresponding to said comment or solution comment in said document to be reviewed, and commands an editor, which edits for editing said document to be reviewed, to highlight a position in said document to be reviewed which corresponds to said position information.

15. (previously presented) A document review support apparatus according to claim 13, wherein when a comment or a solution comment in

said document to be reviewed is designated by said user, said management unit searches from said storage a comment or a solution comment in said pending issue list which is coincident with said comment or said solution comment in said document to be reviewed and highlights a portion in said pending issue list which corresponds to said comment or said solution comment in said pending issue list.

16. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising:

an editor for editing said document to be reviewed based on a comment or solution comment in said document to be reviewed; and
a management unit for managing a change difference caused in said document to be reviewed before and after edition.

17. (currently amended) A document review support apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said acquiring unit stores in said storage a plurality of items pieces of said position information and a plurality of items pieces of comments by correlating them to each other.

18. (currently amended) A method for supporting review of a document, comprising the steps of:

storing, in a storage, position-attribute management information defining items of position information to be acquired from a document to be reviewed, as an entry to comment-solution management information defining a comment and a solution to the comment,

receiving from an user an input of a designated position in said document to be reviewed at which a comment is to be added to comments currently associated with said document to be reviewed, and said comment; acquiring said position information from a position designated by said user in accordance with said position-attribute management information in said storage and storing, in said storage, as an entry to comment-solution management information defining a command and a solution to the comment, said position information and said comment to be added such that said position information and said comment information of said comment to be added are correlated to each other;

searching, from the position-attribute management information and the comment-solution management information stored in said storage, said position information and said comments currently comment associated with said document to be reviewed; and

displaying at least position information, said comment to be added and comments currently a comment associated with said document to be reviewed so as to correlate, on a display screen at positions indicated by said at least position information, said comment to be added and said comments currently associated with said document to be reviewed the comment to correlate to each other.

19. (currently amended) A program, stored on a storage medium, for implementing a method of supporting a review of a document, said program when executed, causes a computer to perform the steps of:

storing management information defining items of position information to be acquired from a document to be reviewed;

receiving, from a user, an input of a designation of a position in said document to be reviewed at which a comment is to be added to comments currently associated with said document to be reviewed, and said comment;

acquiring said position information from the position designated by said user in accordance with said position-attribute management information in said storage and storing, as an entry to comment-solution management information defining a comment and a solution to the comment, said position information and said comment to be added in said storage such that said position information and said comment information of said comment to be added are correlated to each other;

searching, from the position-attribute management information and the comment-solution management information stored in said storage, said position information and comments currently comment-associated with said document to be reviewed; and

collectively displaying at least position information, said comment to be added and comments currently a comment associated with said document to be reviewed so as to correlate, on a display screen at positions indicated by said at least position information, said comment to be added and said comments currently associated with said document to be reviewed the comment to each other.

20. (previously presented) A document review support apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the search unit searches, from the position-

attribute management information and the comment-solution management information stored in said storage, position information, comment and solution associated with said review document, and the display unit displays the searched position information, comment and solution associated with said review document to correlate them with each other.